

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Currently, claims 1-15 and 17-20 are pending in this application.

Information Disclosure Statement (IDS):

Applicant filed an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) on October 4, 2005.

For the Examiner's convenience, Applicant has attached hereto another copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A of that IDS.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Claims 1-11 have been allowed.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103:

Claims 12-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Fokuda et al (U.S. '907, hereinafter "Fokuda"). Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)¹ as allegedly being anticipated by Wang et al (U.S. '311, hereinafter "Wang"). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

For a reference to anticipate a claim, each element must be found, either expressly or under principles of inherency, in the reference. Each element required by independent claim 12 is not found in Fokuda or Wang. For example, neither of these references discloses a spindle having a constant cross-sectional shape and first and second flat surfaces extending perpendicular to the direct axis of the magnetic core. This feature is supported by, for example, Figs. 1-2 of the application which illustrate a spindle 18 of core 11 having a constant cross-section and first and second flat surfaces 18a, 18b

¹ Applicant notes that Wang et al was issued on July 8, 2003, which is less than one year before the May 26, 2004 filing date of the present application.

extending perpendicular to the direct axis (d axis). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the above rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 be withdrawn.

Claims 16-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Fokuda in view of Stockmayer et al (EP '517, hereinafter "Stockmayer"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As discussed above, Fokuda fails to disclose, or even suggest, a spindle having a constant cross-sectional shape and first and second flat surfaces extending perpendicular to the direct axis of the magnetic core. Applicant submits that Stockmayer fails to remedy this deficiency of Fokuda. For example, while Fig. 2 of Stockmayer appears to disclose a magnetic core having a spindle 6, it is clear that the spindle 6 has a variable cross-sectional shape, rather than a constant cross-sectional shape. For example, while opposing portions of the very end of spindle 6 appear to include flat surfaces, the remaining portion of the spindle (i.e., that portion of the spindle closest to the center of the magnetic core) has a circular cross-section. In contrast, the entire spindle in the present invention has a constant cross-sectional shape (see, e.g., Figs. 1-2 of the present application).

Moreover, there is no further teaching or suggestion that the alleged flat surfaces of Stockmayer are perpendicular to the direct axis of the magnetic core. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of still pending claims 17-20 over Fokuda and Stockmayer be withdrawn. Since independent claim 12 now requires, *inter alia*, "a spindle having a constant cross-sectional shape and first and second flat surfaces extending perpendicular to the direct axis of the magnetic core," Applicant submits that

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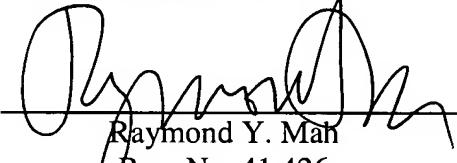
claim 12 is not "obvious" under 35 U.S.C. §103 over Fokuda and Stockmayer for at least the reasons discussed above.

Conclusion:

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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